

FEB 20 2015

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO AFFIRM ITS COMMITMENT TO  
ENDING ALL FORMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE, SEXUAL HARASSMENT,  
DATING VIOLENCE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AND STALKING ON HAWAII  
CAMPUSES.

1 WHEREAS, Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972  
2 (Title IX), also known as the Patsy Takemoto Mink Equal  
3 Opportunity in Education Act, prohibits discrimination on the  
4 basis of sex in the administration of any education program  
5 receiving federal financial assistance and bans sexual  
6 harassment, discrimination against pregnant and parenting  
7 students, and the use of stereotypes and other barriers to limit  
8 a person's access to a particular educational field; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, Title IX protects all people regardless of their  
11 gender or gender identity from sexual harassment and violence,  
12 which are forms of discrimination; and  
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14 WHEREAS, since its inception over forty years ago, Title IX  
15 has been instrumental in increasing educational opportunities  
16 for women and girls and fostering equality between men and  
17 women; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, sexual violence is prevalent on college campuses,  
20 with some statistics estimating that one in five college women  
21 will be raped before graduation; survivors of these sexual  
22 assaults are often full-time students; and approximately one-  
23 third of these sexual assaults are perpetrated on women who are  
24 first year students between the ages of seventeen and nineteen;  
25 and  
26

27 WHEREAS, data shows that our nation's young students suffer  
28 from acts of sexual violence early, and the likelihood that they  
29 will be assaulted by the time they graduate is significant:



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1 nineteen per cent of undergraduate women experienced attempted  
2 or completed sexual assault since entering college, and college  
3 campuses reported nearly five thousand forcible sex offenses to  
4 the United State Department of Education in 2012 alone; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, nevertheless, these sexual acts of violence are  
7 vastly under-reported; less than five per cent of completed and  
8 attempted rapes of college students are reported to campus  
9 authorities or law enforcement; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, as a result of growing concern by students and  
12 parents across the country and recent guidance from the United  
13 States Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, many  
14 universities have made organizational and policy changes to  
15 better address student allegations and safety; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of  
18 2013 is aimed at ending violence against women and girls and  
19 remedying laws and social practices that, in the past, have  
20 fostered and justified violence against women and girls; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, the provisions of Violence Against Women  
23 Reauthorization Act of 2013 have been carefully crafted with the  
24 input and assistance of more than two thousand advocates and  
25 experts from around the country to: ensure that survivors of  
26 sexual assault have access to necessary services; improve  
27 institutional responses to violence; provide access to services  
28 for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender survivors who  
29 frequently are excluded from services; and ensure that survivors  
30 of sexual assault in Native American communities and in the  
31 United States Territories have access to justice; and  
32

33 WHEREAS, college campuses should not tolerate sexual  
34 violence or any form of sex discrimination, but instead seek to  
35 foster a culture that rejects sexual violence and educates  
36 community members about how best to prevent and respond to a  
37 sexual assault; now, therefore,  
38

39 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
40 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the  
41 House of Representatives concurring, that the University of  
42 Hawaii, in consultation with its student governing bodies,



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1 faculty governing bodies, and the unions representing its  
2 workers, is requested to:

- 3  
4 (1) Affirm the University's commitment to following the  
5 tenets of Title IX and the Violence Against Women  
6 Reauthorization Act of 2013 and to preventing all  
7 forms of violence against women and girls;  
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- 9 (2) Ensure that the University is committed to increasing  
10 resources and strengthening the institutional  
11 infrastructure of all its campuses to more effectively  
12 address and prevent sexual violence and other forms of  
13 gender violence and discrimination;  
14
- 15 (3) Take steps to increase campus safety and improve  
16 campus climate by:
  - 17  
18 (A) Publishing and widely disseminating notice of  
19 nondiscrimination on the basis of sex;  
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  - 21 (B) Publishing and widely disseminating notice of on-  
22 campus and public resources available to victims  
23 of sexual violence;  
24
  - 25 (C) Designating an employee to coordinate Title IX  
26 compliance;  
27
  - 28 (D) Adopting and disseminating information on  
29 appropriate complaint and investigation  
30 procedures;  
31
  - 32 (E) Implementing evidence-based preventative,  
33 education, and victim resource programs;  
34
  - 35 (F) Examining existing internal programs and  
36 available community resources that provide  
37 services for victims;  
38
  - 39 (G) Providing training to the campus community on how  
40 to identify and report sexual harassment, sexual  
41 violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and  
42 stalking;



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- (H) Providing training to students and employees about how to investigate allegations of sexual discrimination, including harassment and violence; and
- (I) Providing training to students and employees about how to increase campus and public awareness about sexual violence, University of Hawaii policy and protocols, and the harmful culture that perpetuates sexual violence; and
- (4) Formulate plans to address and prevent gender discrimination and gender violence given the unique aspects of each campus and strengthen the institutional response of the University of Hawaii campuses to ensure compliance with Title IX and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is requested to submit a report of its guidelines and the status of its Title IX and Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 policies, procedures, staffing, and statistics, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents, Office of the President of the University of Hawaii, and each Chancellor on the Council of Chancellors of the University of Hawaii System.

OFFERED BY:

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